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Die Englische Kolonisation in Irland. Von DR. MORITZ JULIUS BONN. (Stuttgart und Berlin: J. G. Cotta'sche Buchhandlung Nachfolger. 1906. Zwei Bände. Pp. viii, 396; 320.)

FROM time to time a book comes out of Germany or France or America which so closely concerns England and English interests and yet so far surpasses anything which Englishmen have done in the same line, that it impresses one with a certain sense of unfitness of things and one almost hesitates to attribute to it its full value. This book is of such a character; a work of scholarly thoroughness and impartiality, of inclusiveness of subject and minuteness of detail, and yet of originality and breadth. The author, who has already published a history of the decline of Spain during the revolution in prices in the sixteenth century, has not only studied his materials on the ground in Ireland, as he tells us, during repeated and prolonged visits during a number of years, but he has evidently pondered his subject and its problems maturely and now expresses his results clearly and pleasantly. It is perhaps no loss to his treatment of his subject that he has, as he confesses, felt in his own experience the *verführische Reize des irischen Volkes*.

A book on a subject on which so little of serious value has been written as the history of Ireland can probably best be reviewed by simply giving a statement of its contents. The first volume covers the period from the conquest in the twelfth century to the rebellion of 1641, the second volume brings the account down to the great famine of 1845-1847, and its immediate consequences. The three books of the first volume are devoted respectively to the first or Anglo-Norman colonization, its history and decay; the battle between the English administration and the clan organization in the sixteenth century; and the new colonization in the seventeenth.

The first English conquest and settlement of Ireland was more definite and limited in time than we are perhaps in the habit of recognizing. From May 1169 when the first band of *conquistadores* landed on the southeast coast to March 1172 when Henry II. sailed from Wexford after receiving the submission of all the English and many of the Irish chieftains the original conquest had been completed and the foundations of English administration in Ireland laid. The settlement extended over a longer period. For almost a century and a half, till about 1315, Norman, Welsh and English adventurers, with a sprinkling of Flemings and Jews, came over as members or followers of the early bands of invaders, or in the wake of successive viceroys. But with the early years of the fourteenth century this immigration ceased and the history of the English in Ireland was the history of these men and their descendants until immigration was resumed almost three centuries later, at the close of the sixteenth century.

Dr. Bonn gives a careful description of the political and economic organization of these immigrants and of the Celtic community amidst which they settled. In many ways the body of settlers represented Eng-

lish life—its feudal dues, three-field system of agriculture, the common law—along with English dress and speech. In many other ways it was so deeply modified by the presence of the Irish—the clan-system, Brehon law, military dependents of English and Irish landholders quartered on the free and servile inhabitants, both English and Irish, that the appearance is not of a transplanted England, but of a merely modified native community. On the whole, for its first century and a half the English colony in Ireland might be considered a successful experiment. It was self-supporting and tended to extension and consolidation. Later things did not go on so well. The campaigns of Edward Bruce in 1315 ravaged the land and broke the prestige of English administration; some English colonists left the island and others changed a farming for a hired soldier's life; the Celtic tide flowed in correspondingly, not only in material ways but in speech, dress, law and customs. The old Celtic chieftains rose in power and many English became indistinguishable from those of purely Celtic blood. By 1500 the first English colony may be considered to have almost disappeared, and Ireland to have slipped practically out of the hands of England and out of the domain of English institutions.

Some of the most persistent problems of Irish history, however, go back to this period. The discord between permanent English settlers and temporary officials and adventurers, the uncertainty of the status of the Irish parliament as compared with the English; the contrast between the law, with its prohibition of intercourse between English and Irish, its refusal to recognize Irish land-titles and customs, and its blind adherence to English conceptions, and the actual facts of life, with the ubiquity of Irish blood, customs and ideals—these things not only have their roots in the earlier period but are already full-grown with the first century of the conquest.

With the strong government of the Tudors came a process of reaction consisting in the gradual destruction of the power of the Irish chieftains, the dissolution of the clans, and the partial rehabilitation of the colony. Lapping over these processes, and vastly more significant than they, beginning about 1550 but attaining its full activity only in the reign of James I., came the second great process of colonization. The incentives to this, its methods, its difficulties, its partial success and its essential failure occupy the third book; as the third colonization, that under the Commonwealth, does the fourth, and the rule of the colonists in Ireland since that time does the fifth and concluding book. Dr. Bonn looks upon the history of the English colonization of Ireland as a profound and melancholy failure. The effort to colonize a country already occupied by a self-supporting race was at best a difficult experiment but it was made impracticable and calamitous to both peoples by certain prevailing errors on the part of the colonizing race. Dr. Bonn's work is in essence a study and analysis of all the steps in this process.

We should be glad if the author had given somewhat more narrative

and less analysis. The salient occurrences in Irish history he rather takes for granted than tells. Closely connected with this fact is his disregard of secondary works. It is certainly a good fault to rely too much on primary sources, but it is a fault, and we should be glad to have seen the few good modern works on Irish history more utilized and also listed in some kind of bibliography. A historian should not only tell his own story but acknowledge those who have preceded and assist those who are to follow him. It is also noticeable that English sources and English control of Irish policy are largely neglected. We have not found a reference to the Acts of the English Privy Council, though that body was much occupied with Irish affairs, and we are told much more fully how a policy worked out in Ireland than why it was adopted. The author is rather prone to make comparisons between conditions in Ireland and those in South Africa or India; it is somewhat curious that he sees no occasion for comparison between the contemporary problems of English colonization and the efforts toward their solution in Ireland and in America. But all these are matters in which the author has a right to use his own judgment, and there is no doubt that this book is one of first-rate importance in the largely neglected field in which it lies.¹

EDWARD P. CHEYNEY.

Magellan's Voyage around the World. By ANTONIO PIGAFETTA. Original text, with translation, notes and bibliography by JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON. (Cleveland: Arthur H. Clark Company. 1906. Two volumes, and index-volume. Pp. 273; 313; 88.)

THIS is a separate print, in a limited edition, of the Pigafetta relation as presented in volumes XXXIII. and XXXIV. of the Philippine historical series now being issued from the same Cleveland press. That work also being limited, a separate issue of this first complete version of Pigafetta in English was well justified, while the thorough and painstaking labor of Mr. Robertson as translator and editor have made a place for it in all good historical collections.

The Italian adventurer and cavalier Antonio Pigafetta set out in one of the five ships of Magellan in August, 1519, and was one of the handful of men who survived all the vicissitudes of this the most eventful voyage of history and reached Spain again in the little *Victoria* in September, 1522. His relation of the voyage is by far the best and most authoritative document upon the subject, and was very early recognized as such. Not the same reliance may invariably be placed upon his accounts of native customs in the islands visited, particularly the Philippine Islands; for it seems evident that Pigafetta has mixed with his

¹ We understand that a part of the book has been translated into English and published under the title *Modern Ireland and her Agrarian Problem* (London, Murray, 1906, pp. 172).